

**SECRET**

CIA/RR CB No. 60-19

Copy No. \_\_\_\_\_  
28 March 1960

~~NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL~~ *deleted*

## CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

NEW OVERSEAS PORT OF ROSTOCK TO BEGIN OPERATION IN MID-1960

OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND REPORTS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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NEW OVERSEAS PORT OF ROSTOCK TO BEGIN OPERATION IN MID-1960

East Germany's new Baltic Port of Rostock which has been under construction for three years is scheduled to begin transshipping operations on 1 May 1960. About 700,000 tons of cargo is planned to pass through the port this year. This vast project, which includes the construction of a new entrance to the Baltic, two separate basins for freight and one for crude oil, and the rail transportation system to service the port, has been constructed either on schedule or, in the case of some of the facilities, ahead of schedule. The rarity of on-schedule completion in East Germany indicates the high priority that the project has received from the East German Government. Although this port is to have a 6.9 million-ton capacity in 1965, instead of a 20 million-ton capacity reported earlier it will still be able to handle the majority of the GDR's overseas trade by 1965 and can be expanded to 20 million tons later if desired. 1/ Apparently the expansion of the ports of Wismar, Stralsund, Sassnitz, and Greifswald has been halted after considerable expenditures, and the resources concentrated at Rostock. 2/

The construction of the new overseas harbor facilities in Rostock was begun in October 1957 and was planned originally to be completed by 1967. These plans were later changed following consultations within CEMA. The changed plans as established by the East German Planning Commission in May 1959 called for a capacity of 6.9 metric tons by 1965 including 1 million tons of crude oil. The sea canal to the Baltic and the East Mole at the Baltic entrance were completed 15 months and 13 months ahead of schedule respectively.\* As a result of this success and the speed with which the other construction work progressed it was decided to begin actual operations at the project on 1 May 1960 instead of the beginning of 1961 as originally planned. The total cost of the project to 1965 will be about \$187 million, including \$88.8 million for construction and \$51.2 million for equipment. About \$75 million of construction work had been completed by 1 Jan 1960. 3/

It is evident that this project, which was early given high priority by the East German Government, has progressed rapidly and on schedule. The East German construction organizations have the capacity to complete this project as planned provided they are given adequate supplies of men and materials.

The East European Soviet Satellites will start to reduce their dependence upon the port of Hamburg when the new overseas port of Rostock receives its first ship; East Germany alone has transshipped almost 10 million tons of freight through Hamburg in the 1950-58 period, or about 5 percent of the annual Hamburg traffic. Upon completion of the new port and improvements to existing facilities in 1965, 10.7 million tons of a planned 11.9 million tons of East German overseas cargo are to be transshipped through East German ports including the new overseas port at Rostock, and the remaining 1.2 million tons through Polish ports. 4/

\* See map following page 3.

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The East Germans, although maintaining that economic necessity is the motivation--especially to save hard currency--state privately that the port's completion "will make it impossible to put economic pressures on us in navigational matters." Indeed, it would reduce East Germany's vulnerabilities to countermeasures which could be instituted by the West in retaliation for Bloc harassment of allied traffic to West Berlin. If Rostock is connected with the Elbe, via the North-South Canal, over a million tons of Czech cargo passing through Hamburg yearly could be diverted. The oil port with its planned refinery, will permit more extensive use of the Baltic as a supply line, thereby reducing the need for rail transit through Poland.

28 March 1960

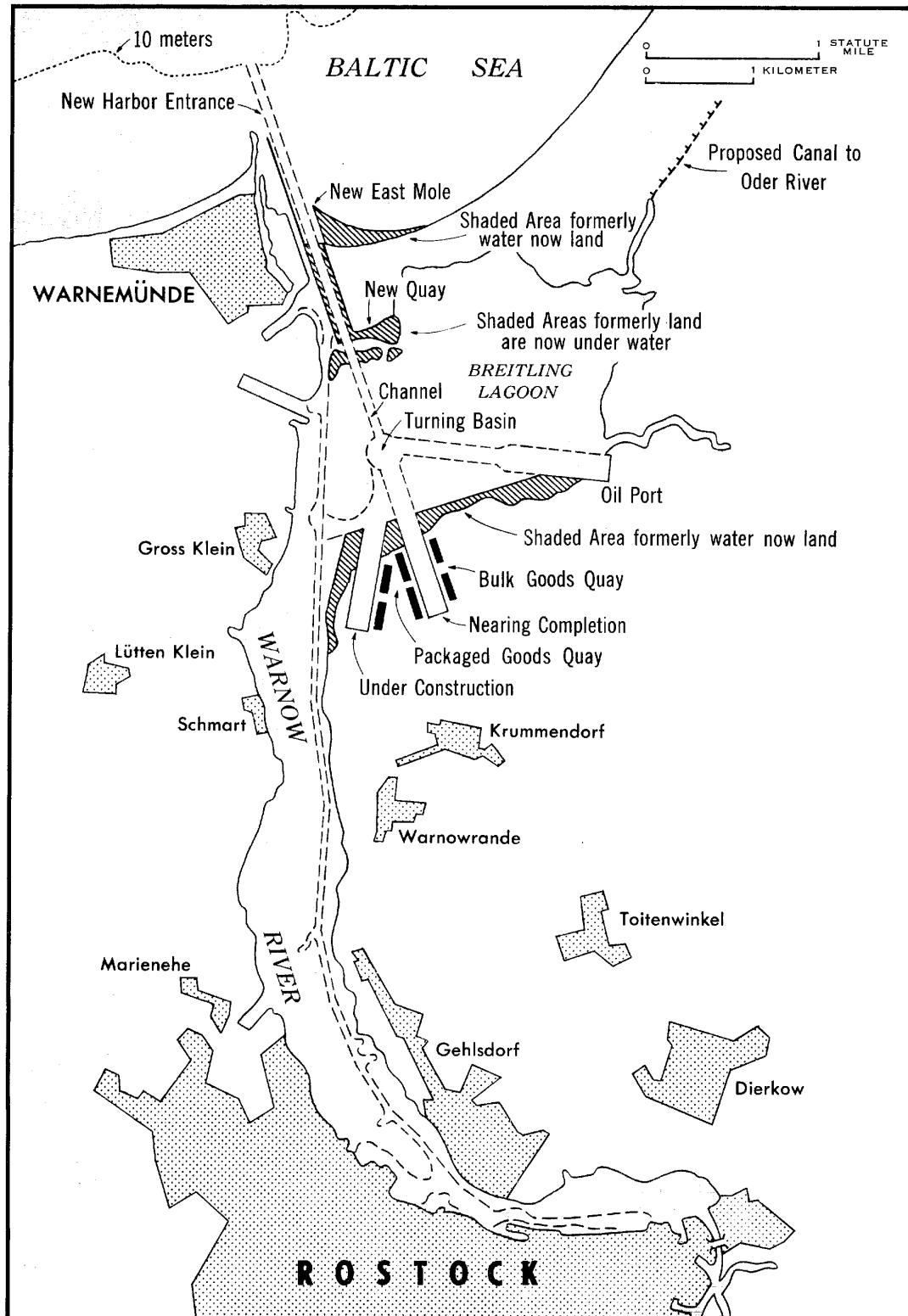
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# Port of Rostock



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Analyst:



25X1A

Coord:

Sources:

25X1A

1. Army, USAREUR. ID 2140358, 16 Oct 59. C.
2. [REDACTED]
3. BBC. Summary of World Broadcast (EE), Weekly Supplement No. 44, 5 Feb 60, p. B 22. U.  
State, Berlin. Desp no 474, 5 Feb 60, p. 2. OFF USE.  
CIA. FDD Summary no 2368, 3 Nov 59, p. 90. OFF USE.
4. Die Wirtschaft, 28 Jan 60, p. 3. U.

*deleted*

28 March 1960

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11 APR 60

SECRET

11 April 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, St/P/RR 25X1A  
FROM: [REDACTED]  
SUBJECT: CIA/RR CB 60-19, New Overseas Port of Restock to Begin Operation in Mid-1960  
REFERENCE: Your memo dated 5 April 1960

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1. This office has no objection to the inclusion of [REDACTED] information, as requested in referent memorandum, in CIA/RR CB 60-19, releasable [REDACTED] provided that your finished study is disseminated with the concurrence of OCR and the Security Office, CIA.

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2. Copy #45 of CIA/RR CB No. 60-19 is returned herewith.

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5 April 1960

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

ATTENTION :

FROM

: Chief, Publications Staff, ORR

25X1C

SUBJECT

: Release of Information [REDACTED]

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1. It is requested that information from the following source in CIA/RR CB 60-19, New Overseas Port of Rostock to Begin Operation in Mid-1960, SECRET/NOFORN/CONTINUED CONTROL, 28 March 1960, be examined to determine whether or not there is any objection to the release of this information [REDACTED]

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2. If this information is approved for release [REDACTED] this source will be deleted from the bibliography before the report is forwarded to the foreign recipients.

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**Attachments:**

Copies 45 & 46 of CB 60-19

St/P/C:nb      ① & 1 - Addressee  
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FROM: Chief, Current Support Staff, ORR

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SUBJECT: Distribution of Current Support ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ No. 60-19  
**NEW OVERSEAS PORT OF ROSTOCK TO BEGIN**  
**OPERATION IN MID-1960**

BRIEF

28 March 1960

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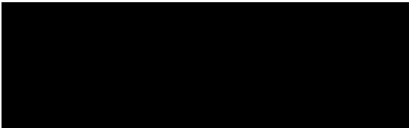
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 CSE DRAFT: TO BEGIN OPERATION IN MID-1960

FROM:

Ch/St/CS

NO.

DATE

11 Mar 60

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

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DATE

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OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. Monitor

[Redacted]

14

EA

6+1 Best get MAP started right away.

2. Typist

[Redacted]

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14 Mar

EW

3. Proofers

[Redacted]

15 Mar

15 Mar

EW  
FB

4. Monitor

[Redacted]

15 Mar

15 Mar

EA

5. Author

[Redacted]

15 Mar

15 Mar

WS

6. Ch/St/CS

10

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HA

7. Ch/ERA

17

17

EA

8. Ch/St/CS

18

18

HA

9. OCI Printers

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Jan Map is ready!  
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- Ready except for MAP

CSM No 60-19

Date 28 MAR 60

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45-46

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